

B. Remarks

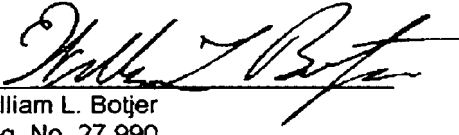
In response to the restriction requirement, the applicant hereby elects to prosecute Invention I, claims 1-5, 17-21 are readable thereon (method of estimating relative impact of company patent portfolios)

It is respectfully requested that the restriction requirement be reconsidered. It is submitted that restriction between the two inventions is unduly burdensome and wasteful of the resources of both the applicants and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office by perhaps requiring separate filings, filing fees, office actions, responses, issue fees etc. for the filing of an additional applications. It is submitted that restriction is unwarranted for the following reasons. The two inventions are sufficiently similar such that they both are classified in the same class and sub-class Thus the search of the non-elected invention will essentially be made when the elected claims are searched and to require a possible separate prosecution of the other claims is unnecessary and wasteful of resources.

Accordingly reconsideration of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions regarding this matter, the Examiner is requested to telephone the applicants' attorney at the numbers listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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